

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend page 15, paragraph 1:

Furthermore two plate-like frame elements 104 and 105 attached to the housing 101 and having guiding grooves or ribs 106` arranged therewith provide lateral limitation of the flat cable insertion opening 103. But in amendment to the first embodiment described, these guiding grooves or ribs 106` essentially run vertically to the insertion direction E (Fig. 5a) of a flat cable arrangement 200. One of the two remaining sides of the flat cable insertion opening 103, in Fig. 4 the left or upper side, is limited by a further plate-like frame element 125 connected to the housing 101 and/or to the plate-like frame elements ~~104~~ 104 and 105. On the side opposite of the frame element 125 a cover 130 is inserted and guided, as hereafter described in more detail, to achieve sealing pressurization as well as to close the insertion opening 103 in assembled condition with the flat cable arrangement 200.

Amend page 16, paragraph 2:

Also in this embodiment two sealing elements 107` and 108` are used to seal a flat cable arrangement 200 connected with a flat cable connector 100. The sealing element 107`, as can be seen in particular in Figures 4 and 5b, is inserted into the insertion opening 103 between the frame element 125 and the terminal contacts or terminal position assurance means 140 arranged within connector 100 for the terminals 201 attached to the conductors of the flat cable and essentially completely fills this intermediate area. The sealing element 108` is inserted in the cover 130, as shown by the arrow X in Fig. 4, and thus routed together with the cover 130 in direction to the frame element 125, so that in the end there is a sealing element arranged on ~~each side~~ the upper and lower sides of the inserted flat cable arrangement at the connecting area. In this embodiment both sealing elements 107` and 108` are again preferably compressed gel cushions, though in this design it is in principle sufficient to provide only the sealing element 108` in gel form, since as will be hereafter described, no or very little pressure is exercised on sealing element 107`, so that in order to reduce costs resort could also be had to another sealant material.

Amend page 19, paragraph 3 (continued on page 20):

For this purpose the exterior dimensions of the opening cover 120 designed for pressurization are so sized that it can be inserted in direction of the insertion direction of the flat cable arrangement 200 at least partly into the flat cable insertion opening 103 and preferably here undergoes a sliding- or press fit with the flat cable insertion opening 103. Complementary catching or snapping devices 121 and 122 are ~~constructed~~ constructed on the opening cover 120 and the wall of the flat cable insertion opening 103 to achieve the final fixation. In addition the opening cover 120 has a slot 123 essentially corresponding to the cross-section of the flat cable arrangement 200, through which the flat cable arrangement 200 is led.

Amend page 20, paragraph 1:

A preferred assembly of the flat cable connector 100 with the flat cable arrangement 200 according to Fig. 9 to 12 is described below. First the flat cable arrangement 200 is guided through the slot 123 of the opening cover 120 and then the terminal 201 are linked by crimping or soldering to the conductors of the flat cable arrangement 200. The flat cable arrangement 200 with the end possessing the terminals 201 is then inserted into the flat cable insertion opening 103, as shown in Fig. 10. If the other end of the flat cable arrangement is freely available and not equipped with terminals, the opening cover ~~123~~ 120 can also subsequently be pushed on to the flat cable arrangement in its insertion direction. It is worth pointing out that for the purposes of the subsequent attachment of the opening cover 120 at the flat cable arrangement 200 the opening cover 120 can also e.g. be in one piece with two halves that can be brought together or in two parts, depending on the application.